

A COPS Workshop Presentation on Volunteer Police: Roles, Types, Lit Review, Post-9/11 Impact



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Foreword

While the activities of volunteer firefighters, ambulance squads, hospital volunteers have been fairly well-reported, prior to 9/11 volunteer policing was seldom publicized.

Volunteer Police: Specific Purposes of Presentation

- To define the meaning of “volunteer police”
- To define and explain various types of volunteer police
- To discern past, present, and future roles of volunteer police
- To explore impact, especially since 9/11
- To review literature



Research Methods Used to Gather Information for Presentation

- Web/Databases
- Archives
- Library Resources
- Interviews
- Participant Observation
- Past Surveys

Findings

HISTORICAL PERIODS

TRADITIONAL POLICE

*SOUTHERN MILITARY
MODEL*

(18th Century-1840s)

*POLITICAL ERA
(1840s-1930s)*

*REFORM ERA
(1930s-1970s)*

*COMMUNITY POLICING ERA
(1970s-present)*

VOLUNTEER POLICE

*LAY JUSTICE ERA
(17th Century-1800s)*

*VIGILANT ERA
(1800-1880s)*

*SPY ERA
(1880s-1920)*

*TRANSFORMATION ERA
(1920s-1941)*

*ASSIMILATION ERA
(1941-present)*

Definition

Volunteer police:

- **are members of a permanent organization (or one established during wartime mobilization)**
- **are authorized by either governmental or societal action**
- **perform one or more functions of policing**
- **overtly function (i.e., functions that go beyond surveillance or communications work)**
- **receive minimal or no salary**

A TYPOLOGY OF ROLES FOR VOLUNTEER POLICE

	Reactive	Proactive
General Purpose	I	II
Special Purpose	III	IV

SPECIFIC EXAMPLES OF TYPES

TYPE I: REACTIVE/GENERAL PURPOSE

Most volunteer
auxiliary/reserve units

TYPE II: PROACTIVE/GENERAL PURPOSE

Auxiliary/reserve police who
have been better trained

TYPE III: REACTIVE/SPECIAL PURPOSE

Friendly Visitors
Anti-Horse Thief
State Guard Defense Forces
Junior Police
Waterkeeper Alliance (WKA)
National Park Service Rangers
Civil Air Patrol
Coast Guard Auxiliary

TYPE IV: PROACTIVE/SPECIAL PURPOSE

American Protective League
Anti-Saloon League
Some WKA

FUTURE ROLES OF VOLUNTEER POLICE

- HOMELAND SECURITY
- DELINQUENCY PREVENTION
- NARCOTICS CONTROL
- GUN CONTROL
- GANG RESISTANCE EDUCATION
- PREVENTION OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING
- ASSISTANCE WITH CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMIES

Note: The first six roles are discussed in M. Greenberg *Citizens Defending America: From Colonial Times to the Age of Terrorism*, University of Pittsburgh Press, 2005

Homeland Security

- Patrol, search, and conduct vehicle checks to constrain terrorist mobility
- Check watchlists at points of entry
- Check identification documents
- Conduct background investigations for sensitive industries
- Guard potential terrorist targets
- Offer community security and terrorism awareness training
- Maintain infrastructure for emergency response
- Provide extra staff during an emergency
- Assist with tasks as assigned by authorities (e.g., help train other local first responders)

Useful Resources Regarding Homeland Security and Volunteers

- M. Scholl, *Police Volunteers: Taking a Higher Ground*, **Journal of Counterterrorism & Homeland Security International**, Vol. 12, No. 1, (Spring 2006), 56-59.
- M. Greenberg, *The Need for a Homeland Security Auxiliary*, **Law Enforcement News**, September 2004, 13-14.
- M. Greenberg, *Citizen Police: A Valuable Resource for America's Homeland Security*, **Journal of Security Administration**, Vol. 26, No. 1, 2003, (June 2003), 25-37.

Assistance with Citizen Police Academies (CPA)

Auxiliary/reserve police can assist by:

- helping to distribute CPA applications
- encouraging those who contact internal affairs about minor complaints or misunderstandings, which stem from a lack of knowledge about police procedures to attend the academy
- encouraging leaders in minority communities to attend the academy

CPA Classroom



Assistance with Citizen Police Academies cont'd.

- discussing the CPA on a radio talk show that has a large minority audience
- conducting a “mini-academy” for leaders in the minority community and encouraging them to invite others to attend the full CPA
- hosting a youth academy

(See: E. Bonello & J. Schafer, *Citizen Police Academies*, FBI Law Enf. Bulletin, Nov. 2002.)

CPA Activity



Impact, especially since 9/11

- Accountability
- More opportunities for participation, especially minorities and youth
- Protection of society/crime deterrent
- Fear reduction/quality of life concerns
- Promotion of the rule of law
- Potential risk with respect to loss of privacy/freedom in an age of terrorism

For Further Study: National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS) Literature Review

- **Angels of the Internet, NCJ 211886**
- **Police Reserves: Rights and Liabilities, NCJ 149367**
- **Auxiliary Police: The Citizen's Approach to Public Safety, NCJ 95119**
- **Special Considerations: Issues for the Management and Organization of the Volunteer Police, NCJ 153706**
- **Citizen Police: A Valuable Resource for America's Homeland Security, NCJ 208232**
- **Volunteers in Protection: Citizens Take Part in Community Policing, NCJ 167967**
- **Study of Auxiliary Police, NCJ 150201**
- **The Auxiliary Police Unit, NCJ 1888**

Angels of the Internet

National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center (NLECTC)

- This brief article describes the work and services offered by Cyberangels, an all-volunteer nonprofit organization providing around-the-clock Internet investigation and education assistance to law enforcement agencies.
- It offers assistance with Internet investigations that range from identifying the source of harassing e-mails to investigating child abduction cases suspected to have begun on the Internet.
- This organization states that it has over 200 law enforcement officers as volunteers.
- It offers a variety of online courses related to online security, Internet investigation techniques, and online safety and privacy.
- All information is provided to law enforcement agencies to pursue. For more information: **<http://www.cyberangels.org/contact.html>**
- For information regarding a related organization, see also: **<http://wiredsafety.org/index.html>**

(2001, 3 pages)

Police Reserves: Rights and Liabilities

H. Wallace & A. Peter

- This article discusses the types of legal issues involved when using volunteers as a reserve component to supplement and assist full-time police.
- Customarily, reserve officers receive no monetary compensation for their services, although some police departments pay for uniforms and other incidental costs.
- Compensating reserve officers, even on a periodic or occasional basis, may raise legal questions about their volunteer status. Generally, however, reserve officers may be paid expenses and reasonable benefits without losing their status as volunteers.
- U.S. Department of Labor rules clearly stipulate that volunteers are not employees, and a U.S. Supreme Court decision distinguishes between volunteers in commercial versus noncommercial organizations.
- Police administrators must also be aware of the possible legal ramifications of allowing volunteers to perform police duties without sufficient training.

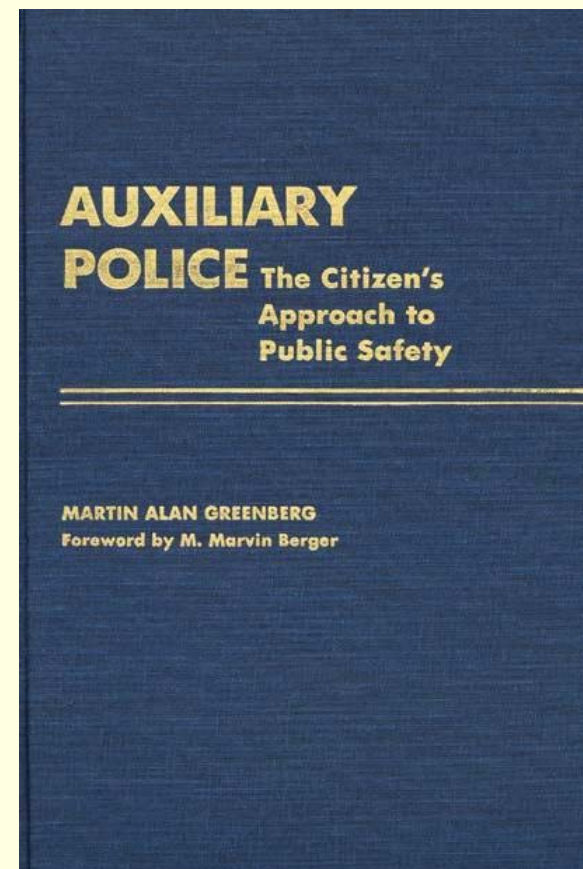
(1994, 4 pages)

Auxiliary Police - The Citizen's Approach to Public Safety

M. Greenberg

- Provides a history of the New York City Police Department's Auxiliary Police (AP) Force.
- Gives a framework for a review of the role of the AP officer in crime prevention and in reducing costs and increasing the effectiveness of police forces.
- Concludes that the AP Force needs more effective management, adequate training, higher selection standards, and a sense of purpose instilled through expanded duties.

(Greenwood Press, 1984, 223 pages)



Special Considerations: Issues for the Management and Organization of the Volunteer Police

C. Mirrlees-Black & C. Byron

- Reviews the recruitment, training, and deployment of Special Constables (SCs) serving in three districts in England.
- Describes data obtained from surveys completed by 856 SCs. For example:
 - SCs wear the same uniform and have the same powers as regular officers.
 - Many SCs included in the authors' sample joined as volunteers when their application to join the regular force was rejected; others joined in order to help the community.
 - Two-thirds of respondents believed that selection criteria should be stricter.
 - SC recruits favored training courses run by regular officers at force training establishments.

(1994, 100 pages)

Citizen Police: A Valuable Resource for America's Homeland Security

M. Greenberg

- Presents an overview of several major types of citizen police organizations that are currently engaged in preventing and responding to terrorist acts (e.g., Civil Air Patrol, Coast Guard Auxiliary, Community Emergency Response Teams)
 - Discusses the mobilization against terrorism of the citizen police units designated as either auxiliary or reserve police.
- (June 2003, 13 pages)

Volunteers in Protection: Citizens Take Part in Community Policing. *Sheriff*, (September-October 1996) L. Hadley

- Describes a program in Yavapai County, Arizona, that uses volunteers to perform administrative, patrol and certain law enforcement functions.

(1996, 2 pages)

QUAD UNIT

Yavapai County Sheriff's Office

- The primary objective of this Quad Unit is to assist the Yavapai County Sheriff's Office in search and rescue and/or recovery missions using certified and trained personnel on Quads.

Quads are used for search and rescue



Study of Auxiliary Police

(Etude Aupres des Policiers Auxiliaires)

B. Jankowski & J. Robert

- A study from France, explores the opinions of 2,530 male auxiliary police officers (median age of 21) concerning their training, professional tasks, reception and integration in their police unit, attitudes toward policing, and future plans.
 - In France, fit males have the option of completing their obligatory military service with the police.
 - Responses to a 38-item, multiple choice questionnaire indicated that most of the auxiliary officers were satisfied with their experience.
- (1992, 21 pages)

The Auxiliary Police Unit

E. M. King

- From the standpoint of the professional police administrator the use of citizen volunteers is explored as a practical means of augmenting police resources.
 - Author urges that first priority be given to the need to assess the local situation.
 - Numerous suggestions are provided for guidance in planning activities.
 - Photographs and illustrations are used to highlight materials.
 - The disadvantages as well as advantages are presented in an objective manner.
- (1960, 215 pages)

NCJRS: A Great Resource

- Anyone with access to the Internet can find references regarding volunteers in the NCJRS database—an online library of abstracts and full-text publications. See:
<http://www.ncjrs.gov/App/search/AdvancedSearch.aspx>
- Anyone can also register with this federally funded resource to receive free information about grants, new developments, Web sites, publications, and related reference materials.

See: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/subreg.html>

For Excellent Ideas on Neighborhood Development and Volunteers

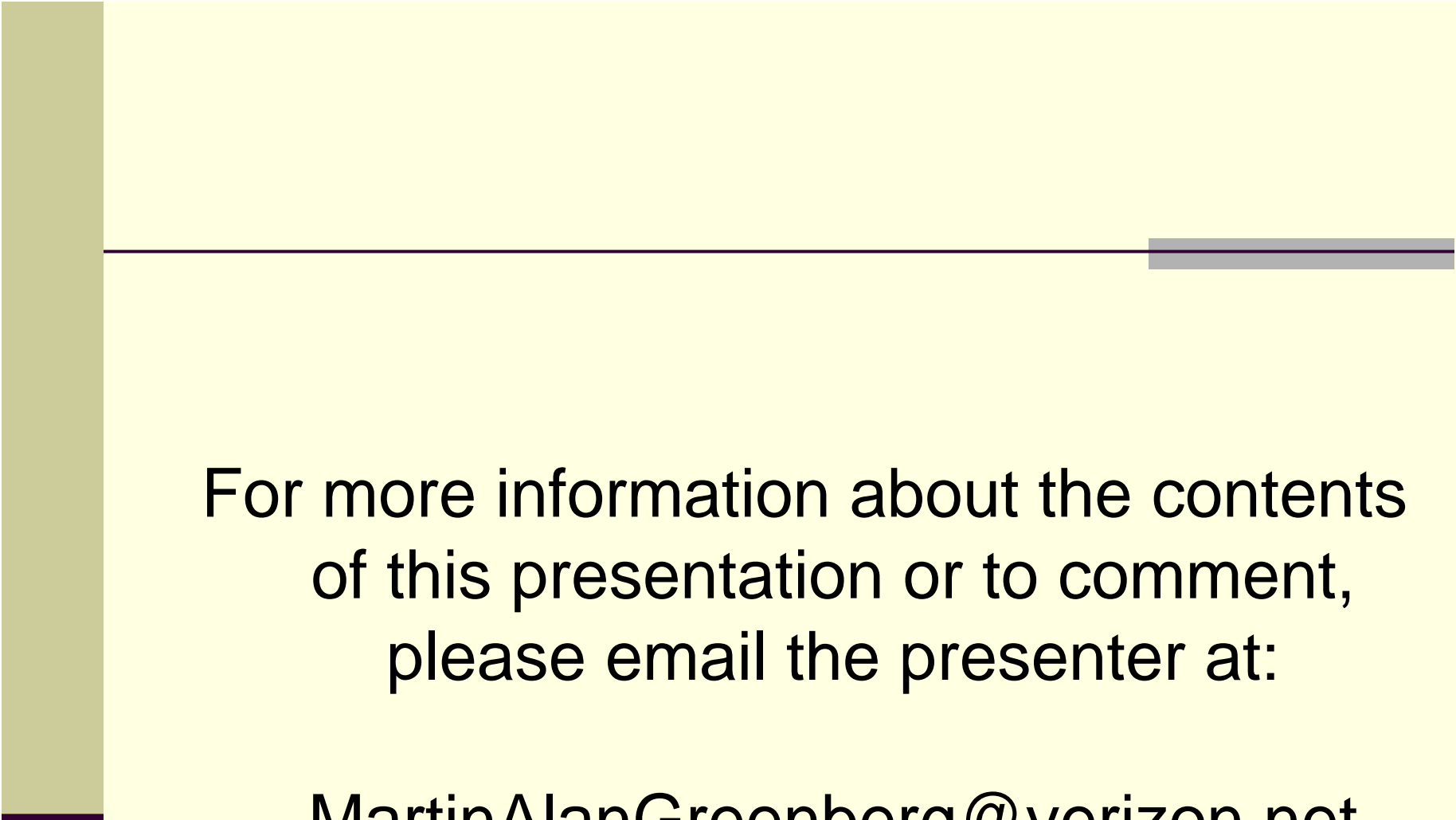
See:

the **Weed and Seed Implementation Manual (2005 Edition)**, CCDO, August 2005, NCJ 210242. (112 pages); and

a series of ***Weed and Seed In-Sites Magazines***

available at:

<http://www.ncjrs.gov/App/Publications/alphaList.aspx?alpha=W>

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